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LITERATURE.

A SYNOPSTICAL ACCOUNT OF THE ENGLISH UNIVERSITY COMMISSIONS AND THEIR REPORTS.
(Prepared for the *Literary World* by C. A. BRISTED, late foundation scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge.)

I. THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY COMMISSION AND ITS REPORT.

In the Spring of 1850, Lord John Russell, Premier of England, wrote to the Duke of Wellington, Chancellor of the University of Oxford. His communication was to this effect: having announced, from his place in Parliament, that a royal Commission was to be appointed to inquire into the state, discipline, studies, and revenues of the two Universities, he is anxious to assure the Chancellor that such a proceeding was recommended with no intention of interfering with any reforms going on within the Universities; but, on the contrary, expressly to facilitate them, by assisting in the removal of any legal restrictions upon endowments which might stand in the way of such reforms.

The Duke referred this communication to the local governing authority of Oxford University, which is the *Hebdomadal Board*, composed of the Heads of colleges, and expressing itself through the Vice-Chancellor. The governing authority replied by a report, rather more than two folio pages long. This document (but for the improbability of such a thing emanating from an Oxford *Don*) might be mistaken for an ironical defence of the present system; in some passages it sounds like a leaf from *Punch*. The virtual cessation of professorial teaching, which has gone on for *only* a century and a half, is spoken of as "a temporary interruption." The Laudian statutes, according to which the Oxonians, in an age subsequent to that of Copernicus and Bacon, were to be taught natural philosophy out of Aristotle's *Physics* and *Meteorics*, are designated "a system of study, admirably arranged at a time when not only the nature and faculties of the human mind were exactly what they are still, but the principles, also, of sound and enlarged intellectual culture were far from imperfectly understood." If anything has gone wrong, it is not the professors' fault, nor the tutors', nor anybody's, in short; and nobody could make it any better by trying to assist them. The amount of the restrictions of fellowships (which have left only 22 open, in the whole University, out of 542) is "greatly exaggerated." The tutors "are not necessarily chosen from the Fellows alone,"—though they always are in practice. However friendly the intentions of the Commission, it *must* do harm, because attacks have been made on the Universities, and the appointment of a Commission sanctions these attacks. To ask a few questions of the University and College officers will "obviously tend to interrupt the labors and studies of the University."

This extreme sensitiveness, on the part of the authorities, may well seem surprising when it is considered that the Commission was to have power only to ask questions, and report such answers as might be given it. To send for persons—to compel *any* response, even a civil acknowledgment of having received its queries (which common courtesy might suggest, but which it did not always get), it was altogether impotent. But, in truth, Oxford has been under an in-

tellectual quarantine for centuries. The English gentleman's ordinary aversion to any extraneous interference with, or even curiosity about, his affairs, has there been carried to a point which transcends the bounds of the dignified and verges closely on the absurd. Nevertheless, the Commission was appointed, the Hebdomadal Board to the contrary notwithstanding. It consisted of seven graduates of the University, among whom were one professor, and one master of a college. A. P. Stanley, well known as the friend and biographer of Arnold, was made secretary. The inquiry was carried on by means of printed papers. The governing bodies of the University, and of sixteen of the nineteen colleges, declined furnishing any information. Nor was the University, as represented in the House of Convocation, satisfied with this negative opposition. It petitioned to be allowed to argue against the legality of the Commission, by counsel, before the Queen. The prayer of this petition was not granted.

Although the Commissioners were thus treated by the societies, they received copious answers from nearly all the professors, from some of the college officers, and from many graduates of reputation, altogether supplying them with material for eighty-seven meetings (spread over the space of a year and a half), and for a report of 260 folio pages, followed by an appendix of above 400 more.

1. STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY.

a. The Statutes.

The Commissioners do not go into any of the antiquarian questions connected with the early history of the University. The Laudian Code, accepted in 1636, is the great starting point. As it was the first regular codification of the University Statutes, so it has remained, to this day, their charter and constitution; though the University authorities have modified it, there are grave doubts whether they had or have any right to do so. It is therefore recommended that they be indemnified for past changes, and set at liberty for future ones.

b. The Administration and Officers.

The University legislature probably consisted, in old times, of but one assembly, "the Congregation," in which every teacher had a seat. This *House of Congregation* still exists, and confers all the ordinary degrees, but this is the only power or privilege left it; the *Hebdomadal Board*, an institution of Charles I's time, has possessed, since the year 1631, "the sole initiative power in the legislation of the University, and the chief share in its administration." This board consists of the Heads of colleges, and the two Proctors.

The *House of Convocation*, a very ancient body, though posterior in origin to the "Congregation," debates and accepts (or refuses) the measures originating in the Hebdomadal Board, elects several of the most important University officers, confers all extraordinary degrees, and disposes of the University ecclesiastical patronage. It consists of all the resident Masters of Arts.

The chief ruler of the community, called the *Chancellor*, was always, till the year 1454, a resident and real executive. At present his duties are performed by a *Vice-Chancellor*, whom the Heads nominate from themselves, in turn, every year. He is ge-

nerally, however, re-appointed three times. The two *Proctors* were formerly nearly equal in importance to the Vice-Chancellor. Their powers, though diminished, are still considerable, as they administer the police of the University, appoint the Examiners, and have a joint veto on all measures brought before Convocation. This veto has been but three times exercised during the present century; one of these occasions was to prevent a censure on Dr. Hampden, in 1836; another was in 1845, to prevent the condemnation of the notorious *Tract*, No. 90.

Very strong dissatisfaction existing with the Hebdomadal Board, the Commissioners propose to restore, with some modifications, the *House of Congregation* to its former authority. As this body originally consisted of the actual *teachers* of the University, they suggest that it be now composed of the Heads of colleges, and *Senior* college tutors, together with the University professors and public lecturers. They also recommend that the professors be a standing committee (*Delegacy* is the technical term) to supervise the studies, examinations, and public libraries.

c. Numbers of the Students.

The average number *matriculated* [or fully entered] for the last ten years exceeds 400 a year. The largest number was 446 in 1849. The average number of students graduating is 287 a year—not quite three fourths of those entering. The total number of members of the University (including all graduates who pay a certain annual sum to "keep their names on the boards" of their colleges, that they may have a right to vote for Members of Parliament, &c.,) on December 31, 1850, was 6,060. Number of undergraduates 1,402, of whom probably about 1,300 were actually resident.* Number of graduates of all sorts resident, probably not above 300. There are more students at Cambridge than at Oxford, although the endowments at the former University are less considerable. This is probably owing to the fact that the Cambridge scholarships and fellowships are more open.

2. DISCIPLINE.

Discipline is exercised by the University and by the separate Colleges.

The two Proctors direct the University police.

The Vice-Chancellor holds a court in which suits may be brought against any member of the University.

The discipline of a college is administered by its head, and by an officer usually called *Dean*, though, in some colleges, known by other names. The tutors also take part in the control of the students.

The ordinary practice is, that the college gates are closed at 9½ P. M., after which time no student is allowed to go out; but those who are out may remain until midnight by paying a small fine, which goes to the porter as his fee. The lodging-houses (for many of the students sleep in the town, the college buildings not being large enough to accommodate them all) are bound to observe the same rules. College lectures take place between 9 A. M. and 2 P. M. An undergraduate is generally expected to attend two lectures a day, occupying one hour each. The students dine in the college hall at 4 or

* The term *undergraduate* is rather loosely used in an English University. *Strictly* speaking, it applies to all students who have not taken their M. A. degrees, and consequently includes Bachelors of Arts. But it is frequently applied, as with us, only to students who have not yet taken their first degree.

5 P. M.; but attendance is not rigorously enforced except on particular occasions, e. g., when races occur in the vicinity of Oxford.

The punishments inflicted by the University and the Colleges are the same: literary impositions and fines, usually for some breach of discipline involving no violation of morality; confinement to the walls of the college [*walling*, as it is popularly denominated], and *rustication* [temporary suspension], the ordinary penalties for being detected in gambling or gross immorality. *Expulsion* is very rarely proceeded to, as it destroys a man's prospects for life by virtually shutting the professions to him. There are two college forms of modified dismissal, *Liceat migrare* and *Bene discessit*; they are usually the consequence of mental inefficiency rather than moral obliquity, and do not hinder the student so dismissed from entering at another college or at Cambridge.

The two greatest and most obvious evils at the University are sensuality and gambling. But these, from their very nature, being carried on with secrecy, little can be done in the way of positive enactment to restrain them. *External decency* is well preserved at Oxford. In this respect, a great reform has taken place within the memory of living men. A less flagrant but more widely-extended evil is a habit of extravagant expenditure. Dress, furniture, tobacco, driving and hunting are specified as principal items of this. Several remedies more or less stringent have been proposed. The Commissioners suggest an enactment "that no debt whatever shall be recoverable from a young man in *statu pupillari*, unless the bills have been sent him in the same term in which the articles were supplied, and (in case of non-payment) a second bill sent to his tutor in less than six months after." But the heaviest debts are not due to *fair* tradesmen. "An infamous race has arisen whose business it is to advance money to young men at ruinous rates of discount. * * * It is within the knowledge of one of our own body that a young man accepted bills to the amount of \$2,125* and received only \$100 in cash. This sum of \$100 was the alleged proceeds of the sale of beds, pigs of iron, and other goods, to one confederate, which same articles the unhappy youth had purchased for the sum of \$2,125 from the other confederate."

On the whole, the Commissioners think that *direct* interference will do comparatively little to prevent debt. In the matter of extravagance—if not of vice—no small portion of the blame lies on the parents, or rather on the public feeling of that class to which the parents belong. "To spend more than their income," says a witness; "to waste their time, and to be moderate disorderly in conduct have been, and still are, so usual in ordinary education of the upper classes, that they are tolerated by a very indulgent treatment in society, treated as privileges of the rich and easy, and only complained of by the majority of such classes, when they lead to too marked a failure or too heavy bills."

The distinctions of rank, and, still more, the distinction of wealth (in the division of commoners and gentlemen-commoners),† ex-

isting among the students are decidedly condemned. The class of gentleman-commoner has been abolished in several colleges. The only eminent authority in favor of maintaining it is Archbishop Whately.

different interpretations, and [3] practically neither excluding all who are *not* members of the Church of England, nor including all who *are*.

(To be continued next week.)

THE PREACHER AND THE KING.*

If this little work does not awaken public attention among us, it will be for lack of interest in some of the most important questions of taste and morals. At a time when every variety of discussion is rife concerning the pulpit and its means of power, there is good reason to believe that many readers, in and out of the clerical profession, will turn with eagerness to a work which contemplates the subject from an entirely new point of view. We are among those who believe that great advantages are to be derived from the study of the French pulpit. That it has latterly fallen somewhat into disregard, may be fairly attributed to the change which has silently come over public religious discourses, which have more and more sacrificed force to accuracy, have degenerated into essays or lectures, and have lost the elements of high imagination and passion. It would be unjust to denominate this the English school of pulpit composition, because England has produced such preachers as Barrow, Taylor, Hall, and Melville, yet it is almost peculiar to English and Anglo-American divines, and no specimens of it are to be discovered in French literature. Laying out of view all points of doctrine, we think it must be acknowledged that England can point to no group of contemporary preachers, standing out with such admitted superiority, as those which figure in this engaging volume.

The brilliant period in which the scenes are laid is that of the reign of Louis XIV, into which, above all others, we suppose the intelligent reader would seek to be transported, if it were possible, by a wish. Even now, after so many reigns and revolutions, Paris teems with recollections of that era; travellers still survey the Place des Vosges, once the Place Royal, and remember when the antique and sordid buildings which surround it were peopled with the courtiers of the Grand Monarch. They still grope their way to the Hotel Carnavat, and, amidst its inner court surprisingly devoid of neatness, and its still remaining statuary blackened by neglect, try to recall the time when the Sévigne was within these very walls. Here—memory rejoins—were penned those light but passionate epistles which have, by common consent, been voted the finest letter-writing in the world. Here *la belle Madelonne* charmed the courtiers of more than one generation. Here the good, easy, corpulent Abbé, *le bien bon* of the correspondence, feasted and fasted. Here the superb eoteries, comprising the La Fayettes, the Coulanges, d'Haquerville, Corbinelli, Rochefoucauld, fought over the battles of Jansenism. And here, also, Arnauld, Bourdaloue, Nicole, and perhaps Pascal, discoursed of sacred themes, strangely blended with the poisonings of Brinvilliers, the music of Lulli, and the frailties of Fontanges. It was one of the piquant traits of the time, that the same gay crowds who flowed to the opera and the court ball, went also, in full tide, to

* All sums have been converted to our federal standard for the American reader's convenience.

† The main body of the students are called *commoners* (at Cambridge, *pensioners*). The *Gentlemen-commoners* (at Cambridge, *Fellow-commoners*) pay about twice as much for everything as the others, in return for which they have a separate table in a hall more luxuriously supplied than that of the commoners, wear a different gown, and are popularly supposed (not altogether without foundation) to be more leniently treated by the authorities in the matter of chapels and lectures.

The question of the admission of Dissenters to the University is one which the Commissioners "were instructed not to entertain;" but on the mode by which the exclusion of this class is effected, it feels at liberty to express an opinion. The tests or subscriptions now in force are strongly condemned as [1] varying from one another, [2] being open to

* The Preacher and the King; or, Bourdaloue in the Court of Louis XIV. Being an account of the Pulpit Eloquence of that distinguished era. Translated from the French of L. Bungener; Paris, 12th edition. With an introduction by the Rev. Geo. Potts, D. D., Pastor of the University Place Presbyterian Church, New York. Boston: Gould & Lincoln, 1853.

the splendid oratory of the churches. Hence the comic earnestness with which Madame de Sevigné descants on a question of Cartesianism or Molinism, as a *belle passion* during Lent. To this very circle, not to be matched in any other age, we are directly introduced by the volume before us; which presents the "form and pressure" of the time, with the secure familiarity of a Frenchman, and the deep study of a rhetorical scholar.

The book is not a romance, and ought hardly to be classed among works of fiction. It belongs rather to the philosophical dialogue, like those of Plato, or the Alciphron of Bishop Berkeley, or the graver imaginary conversations of Southey and Walter Savage Landor. But the seriousness of the discussion is enlivened by much play of fancy, and perpetual glimpses of society and manners. The great personages, from the sovereign downwards, are made to pass before us in due costume. We listen to Fénelon, as yet but an abbe, to Bossuet, to Bourdaloue, to the great Protestant Claude, to Fleury and Catin. But these dramatic conjunctures are sub servient to the main design, which is to unfold the principles of pulpit eloquence. While the author's views on this subject are not the less pleasing for being distinctively French, they are not Romish; and the prominent place given to Claude and his lofty opinions redeems the discussion from all charge of leaning towards what is corrupt in the hierarchical pulpit. There are few questions respecting the true function of the preacher, and the means by which he is to reach his momentous ends, which are not touched in these animated conversations. If we mistake not, homiletical precepts have never been presented in a more lively manner; nor is there any book known to us from which, at so small an expenditure of toil and time, the American student can acquire a knowledge of the French Pulpit. Not only the clergyman and the student of divinity, but every educated hearer will rise from these pages with new and more distinct views of the several masters in this sacred art, and with a discriminating apprehension of what were the characteristics respectively of Bourdaloue, Bossuet, Massillon, Fléchier, Fénelon, Bridaine, and Claude.

It is not to be expected that we should concur with M. Bungener in every opinion which he expresses respecting sacred eloquence. Yet we have been surprised to find how seldom we have seen cause for even a momentary dissent. The whole tone of the discussion is elevated and Christian, and the moral dignity and fearful responsibility of the preacher are held forth without abatement. We should indeed be glad if we could ascribe to all the clergymen of our acquaintance that regard for divine judgment, and that fearlessness in rebuking human sin in high places, which shine with so serene a lustre in the noble preachers depicted here. The reader's attention may, without dread of disappointment, be directed to the discussion of written as compared with extemporaneous discourse, in the twentieth chapter. We would likewise indicate the striking chapter on the life, eloquence, and reputation of Bourdaloue, Massillon, and Bridaine. On the whole, we welcome the work as a novel, fascinating, and valuable contribution to literary history, rhetorical discipline, and Christian homiletics.

The translator has throughout evinced a perfect familiarity with both languages, and

a faculty in this difficult work which may justly afford encouragement to go on in similar labors. To say that the volume bears the imprint of Gould and Lincoln is enough to commend its beauty to those who are familiar with the Boston press. The commendatory introduction by the Reverend Dr. Potts adds value to the book, and affords much additional information, while it is fair and by no means extravagant in estimating the merits of the contents. The entire production is so much apart from anything which has recently appeared in our literature, that we confidently expect for it a favorable, if not an enthusiastic reception.

CÆSARIENSIS.

VILLETTE.*

THERE is a freshness about the books of Currer Bell which we find in no other writer. She seems to cast herself loose from all novel writing precedents, and constructs, from beginning to end, after her own fashion. Her independence is shown in the choice of a heroine. She takes a plain looking woman, with no graces of manner or speech, unproped by rank or fortune. The heroine tells her own story. At the outset we dislike her; she takes no pains to ingratiate herself, but, on the contrary, turns the rough side of her character to us. As we read on, we are, in spite of ourselves, interested in her adventures. We pity the unfriended condition which she takes so coolly. We admire her self reliance and independence, and do not advance very far before we have a warmer sympathy with her plain face than with the most faultless and fascinating of beauties.

This was the case with Jane Eyre. It is so again with Lucy Snowe, the narrator of "Villette." We hear nothing of her family; she comes before us in early womanhood, as the sojourner in the family of a distant relative. From this abode she passes into the sick room of a lady whom she serves as a companion. Her employer dies suddenly, ere she has added the codicil she has promised to her will in favor of her dependant. With the scant savings from a small salary, our heroine betakes herself to London. She there takes passage for a port in Labassencour, and journeys thence to Villette—a happy name for the snug little capital, the miniature Paris, Brussels. She here offers her services as a teacher in the fashionable boarding and day school of Madame Beck, and obtains a situation. She has now reached her field of action. The scene, though often varied, does not leave the precincts of Villette.

We cannot follow all the turns of the story, which possess the rare merit of allowing the reader to penetrate but a short distance beyond the page on which his eyes rest in its mysteries. We cannot show all the nice touches of character exhibited in the portrayal of Madame Beck, the model of an intriguing, smooth spoken, politic woman, who has her loop holes of observation everywhere, and plays the spy in the most *nonchalant* manner; nor dwell on the skill with which the school girl belle, pretty and silly, is shown off; nor speak of the happy and vivid glimpses we have of the other scholars and teachers, and of the admirable manner in which the *mise en scène* is brought before our eyes by the clear descriptions of the

class rooms, the long dormitory, the garden, with its *berceau* and *allée défendue*: all the ins and outs of the establishment, in a word, are as familiar to us as those of our own domicile. So, too, with the streets and parks of Villette—how unmistakeably foreign they are, how truthful is every touch of rapid description.

M. Paul Emanuel has charge of the belles-lettres department in Madame Beck's establishment. He is a small, compact Frenchman, with black hair and beard, close cropped, irascible and tyrannical. We have frequent glimpses of him in the school ere we suspect the important part he is to play in the story. Miss Bronte has displayed all her peculiar power in this character. The reader is disgusted with him at first, and the power by which that disgust is changed to liking, as we know more of the man, is wonderful. So quietly is it exercised that we are scarce conscious of the transition of our sentiments. We see the qualities of his mind and heart develop with the progress of the story, as if we were watching the easel of an accomplished portrait painter, from the first trace of the pencil to the last touch of the brush.

The power of the writer is not, however, all bestowed on eccentric and neglected men and women. She can mould the luminous porcelain as well as the rough earthenware of humanity. Her Shirley was a notable example of this, and her Polly, in this book, is a still more charming creation. The scenes in which the beauty is first introduced have a strange, weird charm about them; and those in which she reappears, after a long interval, in matured loveliness, are equally excellent.

A description of Rachel's acting is equal in intensity to the great actress's best efforts:—

"I had heard this woman termed 'plain,' and I expected bony harshness and grimness—something large, angular, sallow. What I saw was the shadow of a royal Vashti: a queen, fair as the day once, turned pale now like twilight, and wasted like wax in flame. For awhile—a long while—I thought it was only a woman, though an unique woman, who moved in might and grace before this multitude. By-and-by I recognized my mistake. Behold! I found upon her something neither of woman nor of man: in each of her eyes sat a devil. These evil forces bore her through the tragedy, kept up her feeble strength—for she was but a frail creature; and as the action rose and the stir deepened, how wildly they shook her with their passions of the pit! They wrote HELL on her straight, haughty brow. They tuned her voice to the note of torment. They writhed her regal face to a demoniac mask. Hate and Murder and Madness incarnate, she stood. It was a marvelous sight: a mighty revelation. It was a spectacle low, horrible, immoral! * * * Suffering had struck that stage empress; and she stood before her audience neither yielding to, nor enduring, nor, in finite measure, resenting it; she stood locked in struggle, rigid in resistance. She stood, not dressed, but draped in pale antique folds, long and regular like sculpture. A background and *entourage* and flooring of deepest crimson threw her out, white like alabaster—like silver; rather, be it said, like death. * * I have said that she does not *resent* her grief. No; the weakness of that word would make it a lie. To her, what hurts becomes immediately embodied; she looks on it as a thing that can be attacked, worried down, torn in shreds. Scarcely a substance herself, she grapples to conflict with abstractions. Before calamity she is a tigress;

* Villette; a Tale. By Currer Bell. Harper & Brothers.

she rends her woes, shivers them in convulsed abhorrence. Pain, for her, has no result in good; tears water no harvest of wisdom; on sickness, on death itself, she looks with the eye of a rebel. Wicked, perhaps, she is, but also she is strong; and her strength has conquered Beauty, has overcome Grace, and bound both at her side, captives peerlessly fair, and docile as fair. Even in the uttermost frenzy of energy is each mad movement royally, imperially, incendiarily upborne. Her hair, flying loose in revel or war, is still an angel's hair, and glorious under a halo. Fallen, insurgent, banished, she remembers the heaven where she rebelled. Heaven's light, following her exile, pierces its confines, and discloses their forlorn remoteness. * * I had seen acting before, but never anything like this; never anything which astonished Hope and hushed Desire; which outstripped Impulse and paled Conception; which, instead of merely irritating imagination with the thought of what *might* be done, at the same time fevering the nerves because it was *not* done, disclosed power like a deep swollen, winter river, thundering in cataract, and bearing the soul, like a leaf, on the steep and steely sweep of its descent.

We must do ourselves the pleasure of quoting the capital description of Miss Snowe's first introduction to the school room:—

"I opened the door, let her pass with courtesy, and followed her. There were three school-rooms, all large. That dedicated to the second division, where I was to figure, was considerably the largest, and accommodated an assemblage more numerous, more turbulent, and infinitely more unmanageable than the other two. In after days, when I knew the ground better, I used to think sometimes (if such a comparison may be permitted), that the quiet, polished, tame first division was to the robust, riotous, demonstrative second division what the English House of Lords is to the House of Commons.

"The first glance informed me that many of the pupils were more than girls—quite young women; I knew that some of them were of noble family (as nobility goes in Labassecur), and I was well convinced that not one amongst them was ignorant of my position in madame's household. As I mounted the estrade (a low platform, raised a step above the flooring), where stood the teacher's chair and desk, I beheld opposite to me a row of eyes and brows that threatened stormy weather—eyes full of an insolent light, and brows hard and unblushing as marble. The continental 'female' is quite a different being to the insular 'female' of the same age and class: I never saw such eyes and brows in England. Madame Beck introduced me in one cool phrase, sailed from the room, and left me alone in my glory.

"I shall never forget that first lesson, nor all the under-current of life and character it opened up to me. Then first did I begin rightly to see the wide difference that lies between the novelist's and poet's ideal 'jeune fille,' and the said 'jeune fille,' as she really is.

"It seems that three titled belles in the first row had sat down predetermined that a *bonne d'enfants* should not give them lessons in English. They knew they had succeeded in expelling obnoxious teachers before now; they knew that madame would at any time throw overboard a professeur or maitresse who became unpopular with the school—that she never assisted a weak official to retain his place—that if he had not strength to fight, or tact to win his way—down he went: looking at 'Miss Snowe,' they promised themselves an easy victory.

"Mesdemoiselles Blanche, Virginie, and Angélique opened the campaign by a series of titterings and whisperings; these soon swelled into murmurs and short laughs, which the remoter benches caught up and echoed more

loudly. This growing revolt of sixty against one, soon became oppressive enough; my command of French being so limited, and exercised under such cruel constraint.

"Could I but have spoken in my own tongue, I felt as if I might have gained a hearing; for, in the first place, though I knew I looked a poor creature, and in many respects actually was so, yet nature had given me a voice that could make itself heard, if lifted in excitement or deepened by emotion. In the second place, while I had no flow, only a hesitating trickle of language, in ordinary circumstances, yet—under stimulus such as was now rife through the mutinous mass—I could, in English, have rolled out readily phrases stigmatizing their proceedings as such proceedings deserved to be stigmatized; and then with some sarcasm, flavored with contemptuous bitterness, for the ringleaders, and relieved with easy banter for the weaker but less knavish followers, it seemed to me that one might possibly get command over this wild herd and bring them into training, at least. All I could now do was to walk up to Blanche—Mademoiselle de Melcy, a young baronne—the eldest, tallest, handsomest, and most vicious—stand before her desk, take from under her hand her exercise-book, remount the estrade, deliberately read the composition, which I found very stupid, and as deliberately, and in the face of the whole school, tear the blotted page in two.

"This action availed to draw attention and check noise. One girl alone, quite in the background, persevered in the riot with undiminished energy. I looked at her attentively. She had a pale face, hair like night, broad strong eyebrows, decided features, and a dark, mutinous, sinister eye; I noted that she sat close by a little door, which door, I was well aware, opened into a small closet where books were kept. She was standing up for the purpose of conducting her clamor with freer energies. I measured her stature and calculated her strength. She seemed both tall and wiry; but, so the conflict were brief and the attack unexpected, I thought I might manage her.

"Advancing up the room, looking as cool and careless as I possibly could—in short, *ayant l'air de rien*—I slightly pushed the door and found it was ajar. In an instant, and with sharpness, I had turned on her. In another instant she occupied the closet, the door was shut and the key in my pocket.

"It so happened that this girl, Dolores by name and a Catalonian by race, was the sort of character at once dreaded and hated by all her associates; the act of summary justice above noted proved popular; there was not one present but, in her heart, liked to see it done. They were stilled for a moment; then a smile—not a laugh—passed from desk to desk; then—when I had gravely and tranquilly returned to the estrade, courteously requested silence, and commenced a dictation as if nothing at all had happened—the pens travelled peacefully over the pages, and the remainder of the lesson passed in order and industry.

"'C'est bien,' said Madame Beck, when I came out of class, hot and a little exhausted; 'ça ira.'

"She had been listening and peeping through a spy-hole the whole time."

The book has many stern and mournful scenes, but its tone is not so sombre as that of Jane Eyre. It does not pass over the rude shocks, nor pick out all the hard stones in the rugged ascent of our human pilgrimage; but, if sometimes severe, it is uniformly healthful.

At the risk of letting those of our readers who have not already been the readers of "Villette" have an inkling in advance of its *dénouement*, we must quote the last page of the book. It is a most admirable example

of concise, powerful writing. How much is expressed in its few words; what a series of pictures in its slight touches:—

"The sun passes the equinox; the days shorten, the leaves grow sere; but—he is coming.

"Frosts appear at night; November has sent his fogs in advance; the wind takes its autumn moan; but—he is coming.

"The skies hang full and dark—a rack sails from the west; the clouds cast themselves into strange forms—arches and broad radiations; there rise resplendent mornings—glorious, royal, purple as monarch in his state; the heavens are one flame; so wild are they, they rival battle at its thickest—so bloody, they shame Victory in her pride. I know some signs of the sky; I have noted them ever since childhood. God, watch that sail! Oh! guard it!

"The wind shifts to the west. Peace, peace, Banshee—'keening' at every window! It will rise—it will swell—it shrieks out long; wander as I may through the house this night, I cannot lull the blast. The advancing hours make it strong; by midnight, all sleepless watchers hear and fear a wild south-west storm.

"That storm roared frenzied for seven days. It did not cease till the Atlantic was strewn with wrecks: it did not lull till the deeps had gorged their full of sustenance. Not till the destroying angel of tempest had achieved his perfect work, would he fold the wings whose waft was thunder—the tremor of whose plumes was storm.

"Peace, be still! Oh! a thousand weepers, praying in agony on waiting shores, listened for that voice, but it was not uttered—not uttered till, when the hush came, some could not feel it; till, when the sun returned, his light was night to some!

"Here pause: pause at once. There is enough said. Trouble no quiet, kind heart; leave sunny imaginations hope. Let it be theirs to conceive the delight of joy born again fresh out of great terror, the rapture of rescue from peril, the wondrous reprieve from dread, the fruition of return. Let them picture union, and a happy succeeding life."

DR. AUGUSTINE SMITH'S PRELECTIONS.*

Dr. Smith humorously apologises for the somewhat pedantic title of his work, "Prelections," on the ground "that the word not being in very general use, is better fitted to be associated with a name, the most common of all others among persons of English descent." Dr. Augustine Smith requires no outer sign of this kind to distinguish him: there is a marked individuality in all that he writes, which makes him a man of mark; and there is little danger of his being confounded in the enormous aggregate of the Smiths. The present work is copious with learned reference, and subtle with metaphysical cunning. The doctor is well informed in the facts of science, and a bold and shrewd speculator upon their bearings towards establishing a theory and fixing a principle.

Physiological and Physical Science both claim the attention of the author, the former half of the book being devoted to the first, and the latter to the second.

The first chapter, on the diversities of character from physiological peculiarities, will be one of the most interesting to the general reader. Those on the functions of the nerves command themselves more especially to the scientific.

In the Physical department, a geological summary of the earth's changes, in which, in

* Prelections on some of the more important subjects connected with Moral and Physical Science. By John Augustine Smith, M. D. D. Appleton & Co., and Stanford & Swords.

common now with all geologists and even many theologians, Dr. Smith rejects the old date of the world's origin, and a chapter devoted to the refutation of that plausible, and, at one time, popular book, the "Vestiges of Creation," are instructive and valuable.

We leave the concluding essays upon the moral sense, with their occasional theological arguments, to be discussed by the theologic-moral philosophers, and content ourselves with an interesting extract, which illustrates a point, in the author's argument in favor of the existence of an independent moral sense, to the effect that the discrimination of right and wrong, is not a function of the reason:—

"There is no parity between the strength of our powers of ratiocination and the correctness and delicacy of our moral feelings. There exists, in this respect, indeed, a marked difference between the sexes. For the daughters of our first mother are less distinguished by their ability as dialecticians, than by the moral propriety of their conduct. The contrast, in truth, prevailing between the ethical and intellectual faculties is so striking, as to be matter of daily observation, and the discrepancy is commonly expressed by remarking of some individual, 'How good his heart—what a pity he should be so weak in the upper story!'

"But, oddly enough, disease affords, what appears to me, demonstrative evidence of the non-existence of all necessary connexion between our intellectual and our moral powers. For there is, say the books, a species of madman admirable as a logician; and moreover, maniacs often evince the greatest dexterity and perseverance in contriving ways and means to accomplish the objects they have in view. Now these two elements fulfil all the conditions required by the definition of reason; and for the establishment of these several propositions the following example will amply suffice.

"In a lunatic asylum in France, one of the patients was exceedingly anxious, a frequent occurrence, to rid himself of life. For this purpose, he applied for aid to one of his associates, who readily came into his views, and undertook the task. Between them, they contrived to secrete the cook's cleaver, and while the other inmates of the establishment were at table, they slipped off, when he who was tired of existence laid his head on a block, and the other severed it from his body.

"As soon as the deed was discovered, an inquiry was instituted, and the executioner, being asked if the act were his, replied, 'Yes, and that he was ready to do the same favor to any one who should ask him *politely*.' French, you observe, to the last, the early conviction of what good manners required surviving the perfect wreck of moral feeling.

"And as a matter of curiosity, while on this subject, I may mention, that the difference between fool and a madman is said to be this: In the former, the primary impressions are necessarily correct—in the latter, unavoidably the reverse. But both come alike to false conclusions—the one, because he is unable to reason legitimately from the premises which are true; the other, because he *does* so reason from premises that are false.

"But, if this view were pushed to extremes, what between folly and insanity not many of us, I fear, would escape being caught upon one or the other of the horns of the dilemma, and quite a goodly number would be impaled upon both. So that Horace Walpole's old French lady of quality, when speaking of *all* mankind, made a more remarkable approximation to truth than might be at first supposed. This modest daughter of Mother Eve assured her interlocutor, 'that of the whole world, she was herself the only person who was always right—"qui a toujours raison.""

"The following parallel tale may amuse the reader. It was told by Mr. Jefferson to an intimate friend of us both.

"When the Convention which framed the Federal Constitution was about to disperse, many of the members, heated and exasperated by their contentions, were in a very ill humor. At the very last moment Dr. Franklin rose. He never made speeches, but contented himself with narrating anecdotes, probably often made for the occasion. In this instance, getting up, leaning forward with his hands behind him, and with the best-natured countenance, and in the most pleasant tone, he told his story—probably a new version of the above tale, and, for the purpose, a very great improvement upon Walpole's Old Lady, of whom Dr. F. had probably heard while Minister in Paris. 'There was,' he said, 'a French princess of his acquaintance, who, with all possible amiability and condescension, once observed to her attendants, she did not know how it happened, but so it was, that sometimes one person was right, and sometimes another, but that she herself was the only person who was always right.' The tale, Mr. J. said, produced an exceedingly happy effect upon the delegates just about to depart for their respective homes."

A PROTESTANT NOVEL.*

FROM the day of that most obese and abominable monarch, the eighth Harry, who made such sad work with abbot and prior, nun and abbess, convent and monastery, a deadly feud has existed in England between the Roman Catholic and the Reformed Church. Now slumbering, and now reviving, apparently extinguished during Cromwell's Protectorate, again secretly encouraged by the second Charles, who died, if he did not live, in its profession, the Roman Catholic Church has never, for a moment, ceased in her endeavors to regain that mastery from which she was so unceremoniously ousted.

Poor James the Second lost his crown, and many of his and his son's adherents had their unnaturally elevated, in the unwise and futile attempt to cram *one* religion down the throat of sturdy John; yet it is very doubtful if a more determined and desperate attack upon the merry isle has ever been made by the Pope and his auxiliaries than at this moment.

Rough handling have they met, at times, from the men who proved Punch's advice—"don't show the Bull scarlet"—to be a good one; and now the women have taken the field, and taken it to some purpose.

It is not our province to enter the arena of religious contest, and, therefore, we can only consider Miss Sinclair's book in a literary—not a polemical light, and thus regarding it, bear willing testimony to the power with which it is written. Entirely free from the usual puny twaddle of *soi-disant* "religious novels," it is original, full of interest, and the force and feeling that pervade every chapter, prove in what an earnest spirit the author has engaged in the cause.

Appearing, as it does, when the whole Protestant world is excited with the Madiai imprisonments, and endorsed by the name of many an eminent divine of our city, "Beatrice" has a fair chance of a reception at least proportioned to its merits.

LITERATURE, BOOKS OF THE WEEK, ETC.

THE *Southern Quarterly Review*, in its last well filled number of Southern topics (the Mexican War, Uncle Tom, &c.), has, among

* *Beatrice: or, the Unknown Relatives.* By Catherine Sinclair. New York: De Witt & Davenport.

other papers of interest, a lively review of D. Lieber's volume on the *Character of the Gentleman*. After doing justice to the high raised ideal of that chivalrous manual, which deserves to be in the hands of every American youth, for its lessons of life, the writer, in an ironical way, describes some of the qualities of the more usual pretenders to the character. A reminiscence of the old Carolinian manners, includes a notice of the duel, from which we may infer that institution to be quite an exploded affair as a tolerated ingredient of social manners. The usage is curiously traced to the Revolution:—

"A duel was an event. There was a charming mystery about it. The secrecy, the gravity, the importance, attached to it, the occasional bustle and fussy interference of some magistrate, who was, or pretended to be, punctilious in respect to his official duties as keeper of the peace, and the adroit evasions and escapes of seconds and principals, all imparted to the great event the charm of a profound interest. It was a play, sometimes a tragedy, more exciting than any exhibited at the theatre.

"The Revolutionary veterans imparted this chivalrous spirit to the generation which succeeded them; and it is only since a religious spirit has interfered, and modified the temper of society, that shooting a neighbor, perhaps a friend, just one inch above the hip bone, has not been regarded as a marked distinction among gentlemen. During this period of nice honor, a pistol was held in great consideration that had been frequently employed in settling disputes. It became precious in proportion to the number of its homicides. Particular gentlemen were authorities in the rules and regulations of private war, like Grotius in international law—peripatetic depositaries of the code of honor; and their word was the law to which aspiring neophytes, ambitious of the trophies of manslaughter, bowed down in implicit submission. Gentlemen were obliged to travel with their pistols in their portmanteaus, to be ready in case of need; and the professed and successful duellist was a power in society none the less deferentially treated because his dignities, like Byron's school of poetry, had something that Southerners call *Satanic* in their nature.

"It was thought to be a most happy contrivance to place the amenities and proprieties of social life under the guardianship of this humanizing spirit. A thousand excellent reasons were given to show how conducive it would be to refinement of manners and suavity of intercourse in daily life. The occasional shooting or killing each other, was supposed to have, in this respect, the same efficacy as the diffusion of letters, in preventing men from being ferocious. There were two classes of cases which served to illustrate these happy influences of the system. In the one, two amiable young men, with no shadow of ill will towards each other, were placed in a hostile position to each other, for some trivial cause, absolutely imperceptible to any but the acute senses and sensibilities of honorable friends. By the interposition of these friends a challenge is sent; through other honorable friends it is accepted. They meet at ten paces with pistols, and are both killed at the first fire. In the other class of cases alluded to, a gentleman of quick eye, firm nerves, and cool self-command, acquires, by sedulous practice, immense dexterity with the implement of honor, and deliberately commits homicide after homicide for conventional offences, or no offence at all. Every man is at his mercy. He is rude and overbearing with impunity. If his insult is resented, the victim is shot through the body with the most artistic accuracy.

"It is unfortunate that this system, so softening and refining in its effects, was unknown, or not duly appreciated, by the teachers of Christian morals and manners. The systematic cere-

mous, and deliberate mode of manslaughter, seem, therefore, to be left out of the scheme of Christianity, and indeed, to be utterly at variance with it. Whether we may conclude from this that the Christian scheme is defective, or that this gentlemanly practice of shooting one's neighbor, which seems to be legitimately descended from the priests of Hengist and Horsa, may not have a taint of heathen devilism about it, we will not undertake to decide. Our readers may do so according to their own tastes and judgments.

A correspondent furnishes us with a notice of Vinet, the author of "Pastoral Theology," the translation of which, by Dr. Skinner, was lately noticed in our columns. Vinet was professor, first, of the French language and literature in the University of Bale, and afterwards of theology in the College of Lausanne; but his studies were not restricted to the subjects which his professorships required him to examine: he became preëminent in philosophy and in general literature and learning, and was a voluminous author. Few works of the age have equal merit with his, especially, not to mention others, his "Etudes sur Blaise Pascal," his "Discours sur Quelques Sujets Religieux," and his work "Sur la Manifestation des Convictions Religieuses, et sur la Séparation de l'Eglise et de l'Etat." The London *Christian Observer*, for January, 1853, speaks of him as follows:—"He had to cope with enemies thoroughly furnished for a serious contest. After having grappled with Cousin, he must follow the Saint Simonians, on the ground of materialism; Michelet's historical conclusions are to be tested; Socialist ravings to be exposed. The sophisms, too, and the dazzling errors of revolutionary novels, claim no small share of the critic's attention. M. Vinet boldly presented himself, took up all the gauntlets, hurled by the champions of rationalism; and the evident respect which his very antagonists entertained towards him proved that his apologetic works were peculiarly adapted to the exigencies and intellectual claims of the age. As a journalist, a teacher, a divine, a pastor, and a controversial writer, M. Vinet was equally prominent. If crowded congregations pressed round his pulpit, or eager audiences attended his lecture room, the most illustrious *littérateurs* were proud of seeing their compositions noticed by M. Vinet. For such men as MM. Sainte-Beuve, Guizot, and De Broglie, an hour's conversation at Lausanne, with the *Semeur Aristarchus*, was the highest treat."

M. Vinet died May 4th, 1847, in his fifty-first year.

The *Courrier des Etats-Unis* has been engaged in publishing, in several numbers, a French translation from Mr. Melville's "Moby Dick," in which, it will be remembered, he presents a spirited and poetical account of the sperm whale fishery. The Paris translator, E. D. Forques, asks in conclusion—"Is it a romance, or a matter of fact book of recollections and reality, which we have endeavored to digest in a few pages? let others besides ourselves determine this question. The author, M. Herman Melville, is one of the most popular story-tellers of the United States. In England, also, some of his books, a few years since, attained a certain vogue; the first of them, especially, Typee and Omoo, animated pictures of Polynesian man-

ners, appearing at the moment when the contest of Great Britain and France, touching the protectorate of the Marquesas engaged public attention, partook of the interest excited by the part borne by the missionary priesthood and the celebrated Queen Pomare.

"We think Mr. Melville should be on his guard in the use of eccentricities, purely external to his subject, and which consist in a huge prodigality of bizarre titles, unlooked-for digressions, out of place bibliography, and superfluous erudition. He has sufficient natural talent, *ready-money* wit, genuine invention, to disdain these semblances which have been somewhat abused in these times. With these reserves, however, we do not hesitate to recognise the distinguished place of the author of Redburn, Mardi, White-Jacket and the Whale, among the American Romance writers of America, the representatives of Brockden Brown, Washington Irving and Fenimore Cooper."

WE have received from the *Gen. Epis. Sunday School Union* several volumes on topics of importance and interest to Christians of all denominations. A *Presbyterian Clergyman looking for the Church*. By One of Three Hundred (the late Rev. F. S. Mines) is now complete. Without entering into the merits of the question, we must say that no one can take up this volume without becoming deeply interested in it, or without being convinced of the earnestness, candor and ability of the author. As a specimen of religious autobiography, it will be found to be unrivaled in pith and force. *Daily Steps Towards Heaven* is a devotional work of very high character. Its arrangement, its choice of topics for daily meditation, its elevated tone, its fervor of devotion, will command it to every pious man and woman in our midst, to every one who desires to reach heaven by the certain road of penitence, prayer, faith, and obedience. A *Manual for Sponsors*, by Rev. A. D. Traver, is a neat 18mo. volume, which treats (not in the best style always) of the duties and responsibilities of those who take upon them the obligations of sponsors for children baptized in infancy. Despite some minor defects, it is a good book. *Catechism on the XXXIX Articles*, by Rev. Dr. Beaven, is an opportune publication, and meets a want which has long been felt. It has been prepared with great care, and is adapted to the Articles of the American Episcopal Church.

The extract which we publish in another column from Pulszky's Travels is to be taken as a specimen of the misrepresentation of facts which seems to be one of the inevitable consequences of looking at American affairs through transatlantic eyes—even when there is a professed sympathy with the institutions of the country. Scarcely a single statement of this particular passage is made with correctness.

MESSRS. LIPPINCOTT, GRAMBO, & Co., have published a new collection of stories, *Tales of the Southern Borders*, by Mr. Webber. It includes a correct version of the popular "Shot in the Eye," that tale having, it appears, been largely reprinted from a mutilated pirated English copy. There are eight tales in all of the romance of the prairie and wilderness, told with Mr. Webber's accustomed vigor and poetical enthusiasm, the latter flavoring the natural history descriptions in

which the author is an adept. Mr. Webber challenges attention to his romances for conveying correctly the spirit of "the wild actualities" of the Great South West, and promises, some day, to furnish the historical and matter-of-fact data of his supposed pure inventions. This is one of Mr. Webber's best volumes, and is attractively set forth by the publishers.

Michael Doheny's *Lecture on Democracy* (published by Dewitt & Davenport) is distinguished by fervor, energy of expression, and the oratorical enthusiasm which glows and expatiates in the spoken productions of the Irish school. There are passages of clear statement; others remarkable for terse enunciation of a truth, and others again for excellence of poetical illustration. Altogether, Mr. Doheny acquires himself successfully, and with the skill of the practised workman.

PERSONIFICATIONS.

I. The Boat Race.

A FAIR sight is it when four brawny men
Spring through the waves a vessel light
and long!
How the stern trembles! as again—again,
The ashen oars rebalance quick and strong
To sinews hardy as the sun-dried thong—
But fairer yet when blows the steady wind,
The sail-boat leans her cheek to billows
young,—
And kissing each, flits onward—swift but
kind—
Leaving them bubble-toys, to play with far
behind.

II.

The Flowers gazing with wonder at the passing
Fairy Boat.
Pale satin lilies in the water glassed,
Hanging in beauty o'er their mirror bright,
Feeling the stern-swell, rose to see who
passed,
Then drooped again—yet wondering at the
sight
Raised softly up their bonnets to the light,
And drooped once more. A calm stern blue,
the deep
Scanned the blue sail—doubted she saw
aright—
Or if she yet were in a sunny sleep;
Then shook her haughty head, nor deigned to
take one peep.

III.

The Wind complaining to its kindred Ocean.
Hast thou a kindred spirit, mighty Ocean!
Yea—and she cometh with the whispered
tale
Of where she roves, and with her own
emotion
Quicken thy pulse—the Wind the gentle
gale—
And sometime came she with a note of
wail,
Of how her form a surly gorge would hug,
When go she would to start a lazy sail.
Many! she strove with many a panting tug,
Till almost out of breath, to pass the sturdy
rogue.
Sore was her fright—she seized him by the
hair,
And fierce uprooted many a bristling tree;
But Lightning saw—he leaped him from the
air,
And laid the varlet trembling o'er the lea.
Then as she 'scaped, all sobbing unto thee,
With childish arms apart, complaining sore,
Gay lightning laughed, and shook his plume
for glee,

Whilst thou didst foam revenge, with many a roar,
And bore her far away from that rude ragged shore.

IV.

The Mountains dreaming by the Sea.

These giant Mountains by the purple deep
Recline, dim dreaming, in their hazy ease,
With cloudy curls on foreheads blue and steep—
Flowers on their laps, their feet amid the seas,
And groves of citron resting on their knees—

Then where the Andes pitch their Titan tents,
Listening the Ocean's everlasting roar,
Where Chimborazo's lamp-fire upward sent
The smoke of council on Columbia's shore.

V.

The Pirate Ship—The chase by Night.

Behold a-head, the driving Algerine—
The ocean outlaws on her pirate deck—
Lit by the lightning, see the ghastly grin
Of skull and thigh-bones on her plume so black.
As clings the Arab to the hairy neck
Of his quick steed, so clutching Ocean's mane
That low-built vessel hugs his bounding back.
They leap—they live—they breathe the hurricane—
She gallops on the wave—nor is her race in vain.

POEMS BY TENNYSON.

We find, in the *Anti-Slavery Standard*, the following copy of verses by Tennyson, taken from the London *Literary Gem*, published in 1831. They have not appeared in any of the volumes of Tennyson's poems:—

NO MORE.

"Oh, sad *No more!* Oh, sweet *No more!*
Oh, strange *No more!*
By a mossed brook-bank, on a stone,
I smelt a wildweed flower alone;
There was a ringing in my ears,
And both my eyes gushed out with tears.
Surely, all pleasant things had gone before,
Low buried fathom deep beneath with thee,
No more!"

A. T.

ANACREONTICS.

"With roses musky breathed,
And drooping daffodilly,
And silverleaved lily,
And ivy darkly wreathed,
I wove a crown before her—
For her I love so dearly—
A garland for Lenora.
With a silken cord I bound it.
Lenora, laughing clearly
A light and thrilling laughter,
About her forehead wound it,
And loved me ever after."

A. T.

A FRAGMENT.

"Where is the Giant of the Sun, which stood
In the mid noon the glory of old Rhodes,
A perfect Idol, with profuse brows
Far sheening down the purple seas to those
Who sailed from Migrain underneath the star
Named of the dragon—and between whose
limbs
Of brassy vastness broad-blown argosies
Drove into haven! Yet endure unscathed
Of changeful cycles the great Pyramids,
Broad based amid the fleeting sands, and
sloped
Into the slumberous summernoon; but where,

Mysterious Egypt, are thine obelisks
Graven with gorgeous emblems undiscovered?
Thy placid Sphinxes brooding o'er the Nile?
Thy shadowing idols in the solitudes,
Awful Memnonian countenances calm
Looking athwart the burning flats, far off
Seen by the highnecked camel on the verge
Journeying southward? where thy monuments

Piled by the strong and sunburnt anakim
Over their crowned brethren Ox and Oph?
Thy Memnon, when his peaceful lips are kist
With earliest rays, that from his mother's eyes

Flow over the Arabian bay, no more
Breathes low into the charmed ears of morn
Clear melody, flattering the crisped Nile
By columned Thebes. Old Memphis hath
gone down:

The Pharaohs are no more: somewhere in death
They sleep with staring eyes and gilded lips
Wrapped round with spiced ceremonies in old
grots
Rockhewn and sealed for ever."

ALFRED TENNYSON, 1831.

THE PERIODICAL PRESS IN NEW YORK CITY.
AS VIEWED IN THE PULESKY TRAVELS IN AMERICA, JUST
ISSUED BY REDFIELD.

The press was full of his [Kossuth's] praises, and the Conservatives became somewhat alarmed. The "Courier and Enquirer," the organ of the silver-grey Whigs and of the Exchange—a paper with a circulation of about 2,000 copies a day,—was anxious to involve Kossuth in a personal polemic. His attacks, however, on Hungary and her elected chief were not heeded, and when the editor endeavoured to prove that Kossuth had insulted him by denouncing, generally, the organs of Austrian diplomacy—he was laughed at. The first attack had failed. It was now planned to cool down the public enthusiasm by associating Kossuth with unpopular political parties. The Abolitionists, of course, paid their respects to the man who had initiated and carried the emancipation of the peasantry from the pressure of feudal burdens, and a deputation of coloured persons came also with an address greeting the hero of European liberty.

The "New York Herald" immediately seized the opportunity for identifying Kossuth with the Abolitionists of Garrison's party, and hinted that he was most heartily received by Freesoilers and Woolly-heads. It moreover construed his reception of the coloured men into a personal insult of a deputation of some distinguished citizens of Florida. Kossuth had to send a circular to the papers saying, that, consistent with his principle of non-interference with the domestic affairs of any foreign nation, he naturally does not enter into any discussion of the American domestic institutions; and Mr. John Calhoun, the chairman of the Florida deputation, published a most eloquent and elaborate letter in favour of Kossuth's principles. But it was easily to be seen that the "New York Herald" desired to dam the tide of popular enthusiasm. It is a paper conducted with surprising tact; it has no principles whatever; it takes up and ridicules every question according to its whims, without any scruple; it has but one aim, to increase its circulation, to create excitement, to spread scandals, to make money. The editor, Mr. Gordon Bennett, has succeeded so far, that the "Herald" has a circulation of above 30,000 copies. He is an emigrant Scotchman, who

hates England, and has no love for America. But he has studied the American character, he admirably flatters the prejudices and delusions of the masses, and has an instinctive aversion against everybody whose motives are not those of money-making. His paper is pervaded by a spirit of negations; nothing is positive with him except his predilection for slavery. His boast is, that he is the enemy of all *isms*, as he calls it; and there are many practical, narrow-minded men in America, who, repeating this slang, think they protest only against mesmerism, socialism, communism, and abolitionism, not aware that the "Herald" includes in these *isms*, republicanism, protestantism, and patriotism.

The "New York Tribune" is in every respect a contrast to the "Herald." It is the organ of the Seward fraction of the Whigs, advocating protection of American industry, supporting progress in every shape, giving a fair trial to every new theory, opening its columns to every one who thinks himself oppressed, to German philosophers, to French socialist discussions, to the rights of women, and even to the spiritual manifestations. Mr. Horace Greeley, the editor of this paper, earnestly seeks truth; he is always sincere in his opinions, never evading a question, upright, straightforward, conscientious. The circulation of his journal nearly equals that of the "Herald," though Gordon Bennett is better served by his correspondents, and is often a-head with the latest intelligence, and in point of spirited style surpasses the heavier articles of Greeley.

Whilst in polemic the weapons of the "Herald" are the poison of calumny, and the dagger of treachery, the "Tribune" is armed with a club that knocks down his adversaries with rough blows. This paper sways over Western New York, the Northern and North-Western States, and all the back country; you find it everywhere, in the log-houses of the new settlements in Michigan and Wisconsin, in Iowa and Minnesota. The domain of the "Herald" begins where the "Tribune" is excluded; it is the paper of the planter of the South, of the fashionable in the great cities, and of the men of society everywhere. All of them say they despise the paper, but they read it and buy it, and Gordon Bennett quotes *Vespasian*, "Luci bonus odor ex re qualibet."

The "Evening Post" is the only democratic paper of New York, edited by the great poet, W. Bryant, and his accomplished son-in-law, Parke Godwin. It is a free-trade paper, and represents the liberal fraction of the democratic party, with free-soil tendencies. The pro-slavery whig paper is the "Evening Express;" the "Commercial," and the "Journal of Commerce" are written for the banks and offices; but the circulation of all these journals is very limited. The "Sun" has the largest circulation, it is a cheap journal, written or rather extracted for the masses from all the other papers. The New York "Daily Times," also a cheap paper, ranks much higher, and is as widely spread as either of the great journals. It is a liberal Whig publication, less heavy and less theoretical, but not less sincere than the "Tribune." The editor, Mr. Will. H. Raymond, an amiable young man, of prepossessing manners, has already been the speaker of the house in the State of New York, and is probably destined to serve his state and his country in many higher positions.

MUSIC.

MADAME SONTAG's long and successful season at Niblo's Garden, is fast drawing to a close, and will give place to M. Maretzek's excellent troupe, with Alboni at the head. It is not to be supposed that the cause of music will ever be effectually benefited by any exclusive adoption of the star system, as here practised, but amidst the rocks and shoals of management we can congratulate ourselves upon the public ear and taste having been in some degree enlarged, by witnessing and studying the performances of this eminent singer in her varied range of character. Her excellences are of a kind, however, that require experience to be duly appreciated, and are not such as carry a general audience by storm. In sound musical taste, refinement, in a perfect intonation, and a conscientious performance of her role, this lady is unsurpassed. She has shown her powers in numerous operas, though several yet remain, as *Der Freischütz*, for instance, in which she is said to be yet more effective. As a tragic actress she is not successful; witness her *Lucrezia Borgia*; in melo-drama she is often good; but comic opera is undoubtedly her forte; and the part of Rosina in the *Barber of Seville*, one of her earliest efforts, remains in our opinion, her greatest success. She has, perhaps, produced the deepest impression by her performance of *La Somnambula*, which she gives with correctness and feeling; but this favorite opera, with even a mediocre actress, is sure to reach the hearts of an audience. Linda di Chamouni was likewise a very successful role; not so, however, that of Maria di Rohan, an arduous part, which opera was the novelty of last week, with Signor Badiali as the Duke. This gentleman has proved himself the most useful member of the *corps*, always faithful and reliable in his concerted music, and often brilliant in his soli; his fine voice and admirable enunciation must make him a favorite everywhere. Signor Pozzolini has acquitted himself respectably, as the tenor of this season; his voice and style need much training, and, as yet, are hardly equal to Rossini's finished music; his execution requires clearness and precision, but he has every advantage, in youth and time, before him, to make the most of his gifts. On the whole, this has been a meritorious season, and one of much enjoyment to the public in general.

M. Maretzek's reign commences almost immediately, and with every prospect in its favor. His company will have the honor of giving important works, in excellent style, if but half its resources even should be made available.

M. Shroder Eisfeldt's quartette *soirées* came to an end last Saturday evening. These agreeable and instructive entertainments have been greatly enjoyed by those persons whose love of music is genuine and cultivated enough to appreciate that kind of chamber music. The class is small, indeed, but it is steadily increasing. Last Saturday's programme included Beethoven's septets in E b, which was given excellently, and seemed to be honestly and fervently applauded by all who were fortunate enough to hear it, and was not only the gem of that evening, but of the entire quartette season.

MISCELLANY AND GOSSIP.

— A LECTURE delivered by Mr. J. W. Fabens, on the climate, resources, and social condition of Cayenne, the other evening at the Tabernacle, was the introduction of a new topic of general interest to the community, from its recent notoriety in connexion with the French exiles, and of especial consequence to our commercial circles from the exhibition of the productive resources of the region. It was a review of topics which the lecturer's long residence in the country, as United States' Consul, will we trust give him the opportunity of presenting in a more expanded form. A book from Mr. Fabens on that region, is a desirable and would doubtless form an attractive work.

— The opening on Monday last of Mr. Brady's new suite of Daguerreotype rooms, in Broadway, in the building to which Thompson's saloon in the first story affords a ready lard mark to strangers and others, was an occasion which deserves chronicling, both for the proficiency to which Mr. B. has brought his art, amply exhibited in the choice specimens, on the walls, of the notabilities of the last and present generations, and for the liberal hospitality extended to the numerous guests of the evening. Mr. Brady's rooms, always greatly frequented, have now an additional claim to popularity in the increased elegance and substantial luxury of the accommodations for visitors. His gallery is one of the established lions of the city which no tourist should omit in his circuit of New York.

— Oliver Wendell Holmes has been engaged to deliver a course of twelve lectures on "English Poetry of the 19th Century" before the Lowell Institute. The course will commence Tuesday the 22d inst.

— A society has lately been formed in Madrid for the translation of French dramatic and operatic pieces, and another society has also been formed for the representation of the pieces so translated. The interests of these two societies are thus identical; without the former there would be no pieces, and without the latter no performances. This theatrical oligarchy has spread consternation among those Spanish writers, whose bread is dependent on their pens.

— Wm. Young, Esq., of the New York *Albion*, has given an English version of "*Lucrezia Borgia*," and Miss Julia Dean has been acting the heroine, at the Charleston (S. C.) Theatre. It is spoken of with high favor.

— Max Maretzek has leased Niblo's Theatre, for three months, from the 28th inst., and will produce a series of operas in a better style than heretofore offered in this city. The leading members of his company are Alboni, Steffanone, Bertucca, Salvi, Marini, and Beneventano. This is a sufficient indication of the quality of the entertainments which will be offered. Le Grand Smith is to be the manager, and Maretzek the director of the company.

— A correspondent of the Boston *Transcript* entertains us with the following Adamic remembrance:

"I enclose an unpublished letter of that illustrious patriot, John Adams, which perhaps you may deem worth printing, in connexion with the series in your last three papers. This also was addressed to his class-mate Judge Sewall, and, you will observe, gives evidence that the fire of his youth still burned bright, while with tremulous hand, amid the waning

hours of a life prolonged beyond four score years, he called up spirits from the vasty deep of his boyhood's memories, exhibiting that jubilant nature which seems always to have characterized him.

"This waif, with a few others, was accidentally rescued from a barrel of papers of a like character, which were deliberately given to the flames by parties into whose possession they had fallen—said parties not having the fear of maledictions of autograph fanciers, before their vandalic eyes. K.

'MONTEZILLO, 26th November, 1821.

'Dear Sir:—Your favor of the 13th November, has made me laugh and cry almost or quite like an idiot. The epitaph on the greasy tables I have never seen since I read it on the post. Although it must have been a stupid thing, I would give a mille for a copy of it. The conflagration of the tables is a proof of the capacity of our countrymen equal to the inundation of the tea. The actors in both scenes have shown a generalship equal to any of the heroes of the world, and a determined faithful secrecy that never has been equalled but by the Free Masons. I never knew or suspected any one of either conspiracy.

'I spent six weeks, at least, in Dalton's chamber, in calculating eclipses, in conic-sections and algebraic-equations, and sometimes, at midnight, we went up on the roof of Old Harvard to view, with a telescope, the satellites of Jupiter, and gaze at the ring of Saturn. We chose Dalton's chamber to avoid the noises in the lower entry chambers, which were of great annoyance to my chamber, if not to yours. Charles Cushing and my chum, and some others, made an intolerable racket; for, though Charles was a very clever fellow, and turned out much better than I ever expected, he was, at College, very idle and very obstreporous; and I was not much less so in another way. When Mr. Whitfield preached in Boston, I went to Boston to hear him, and when I came back Dalton treated me with some of his exquisite hyson, with which his rich father always supplied his only son, of which I drank half as many cups as ever Dr. Johnson drank; and by the inspiration of that tea, I repeated Whitfield's sermons, imitating his voice and gestures, as well as I could, and I made as much noise, two stories high, as Charles and his rabble made below. Pray did you belong to our Play-Reading Club? Though these are juvenile frivolities, "*hac enim meminisse juavit*."

'The *Consolato del Mare* is the only monument of a general conventional law of nations in the history of mankind. That book was solemnly sworn to be observed by the Kings of France, Spain, the Emperor of Germany, and most of the Sovereigns of Europe. England was not a commercial or a maritime power sufficient, at that time, to be thought worthy of the association. Since that period the law of nations has been regulated by treaties between particular nations. It has now become a chaos, and, of late years, its eternal principles of justice have been violated at pleasure by every nation except our own.

'I am, as ever, your friend,

JOHN ADAMS.

'HON. DAVID SEWALL, York, State of Maine.'

— In Miss Grace Greenwood's last letter in the *National Era*, we have this account of a gentleman greatly respected and valued hereabouts: William Page, the painter, now sojourning at Rome:

"Mr. Page is here, painting some admirable pictures, and talking grandly on art to his sitters and friends. He has some peculiar, but, I think, profoundly just ideas, concerning portrait-painting. He desires to know well his sitters, and requires to grasp somewhat more than the surface-life for his picture, which

he makes a study of character, a revelation of soul, as compared with other portraits; a reality, instead of a likeness; a living presence, in place of a haunting, unsatisfying shadow. His pictures have about them that mysterious something of the sentient and the vital, which makes you half believe that the artist has wrested the creative secret from the jealous heart of Nature. You look to see the rich lights, a stir in the hair, the lips breaking into smiles, the breast softly heaved, the very blood beating along the veins.

"Mr. Page has in his studio several copies from Titian, so marvellously true to that great master, that it is difficult to believe them by any other hand than his. I am convinced that we have no painter possessed of so clear and profound a knowledge of his art as Mr. Page. He lives in it, and through it; wanting the passionate energy of personal ambition, he does not pursue it ardently, but studies it with all the powers of a subtle intellect, and contemplates it with the calm devotion of a reverential spirit. By bringing so much thought and power to bear upon portrait-painting, Mr. Page has done much to ennoble that branch of his art; but we look to see manifestations of his genius more original in character and universal in interest—something which shall be a full and worthy expression of himself—in which the artist will live as sole creator and first cause. One who can produce such ideal works as he has produced, should not be absorbed for any length of time in mere portraiture—merging the imagination in the actual, the creative in the imitative.

—That spicy "Evening," the *Day Book*, speaks its mind pretty freely, and with its usual Saxon or Yankee directness, on the subject of free admissions:—

"By some means or other, these gentlemen who cater for the public—shall we say amusement or demoralization?—have come to think that an editor has no rights, not even as a private citizen—no, not even to say his soul is his own, if it in any way runs counter to their royal wishes. If he says anything that is not in praise of their entertainment—no matter if it is true, and he paid for his ticket—the devil is to pay, if their advertising bill is not; and if he is graciously put on the 'free list,' or is sent a 'complimentary ticket'—why, he is worse than a barbarian if he don't apotheosize and then idolize the bright particular 'stars.'

"Now, we boldly assert, conscious that we may be damned for it, that this is not very agreeable to an honest, independent editor—especially when he reflects that no class of his advertisers pay so little for what they get, not including the short 'notices' that are given 'extra,' from day to day. For ourselves, we care very little about public entertainments of any kind, and we don't look upon it as a *very* great favor to have our name on the 'free list,' or be sent a 'complimentary.' We have sometimes thought our 'complimentary' should read 'insult,' for we don't think it much of a compliment to have a 'standee' in a crowded house, or a seat off in some corner, out of sight and hearing, which nobody will buy. We have a sort of notion, odd though it may be, that it is no great stretch of generosity to give away what we can neither use nor sell."

Rather harsh, Mr. *Day Book*; and to be taken with a large grain of salt.

—These cool and calculating remarks, from a late leader in the *London Times*, may perhaps have a meaning in this direction:—

"The truth is that enthusiasm is a very capricious affair, and but a blind spirit, after all. All the great enthusiasms of history, from the crusades upwards and downwards, have been either mistakes, or of a very unpractical nature, or sadly alloyed. Of late years we have had

enthusiasm for the Corn Laws, and enthusiasm against the Corn Laws, and a Jenny Lind enthusiasm, and enthusiasm for the Exhibition, and enthusiasm for the diggings, and enthusiasm for Uncle Tom, and enthusiasm for the Great Duke when he was dead, and enthusiasm—for nothing just now that we can think of. But a thing may be very good and very great, and excite little or no enthusiasm. We never had such a couple on the throne as Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, but as they pass through the streets on a great occasion it is evident to all how much curiosity—an affectionate and reverential curiosity—prevails over the enthusiasm of loyalty. There is stuff enough in Lord John Russell, and matter enough in his political career, to make a dozen stage heroes, but he creates mighty little enthusiasm. People are not enthusiastic in the best and most useful causes. They are not enthusiastic for respectability, for solvency, for the Ten Commandments (excepting, perhaps, that on the Sabbath), for the Archbishop of Canterbury, for the Judges, for Sir Robert Inglis, or even for Mr. Joseph Hume. If you wish to get up the steam you must break the dull tenor of life, though that dull tenor may be the best and most growing time of our social and political system. You must devise a battle cry, gather a faction, denounce an enemy, and stake everything on his extermination or disgrace. There is much enthusiasm to hunt down the murderer, especially if he affords a good chase; there is even some enthusiastic admiration when a burglar is shot down like a dog; but not much enthusiasm to educate and raise mankind, so that there shall be few murderers or burglars. There has been much enthusiasm to find Sir John Franklin, alive or dead; but little to prevent more lives being squandered in that service, or even to insure that they shall be risked to the best advantage. Just now no enthusiasm possesses the nation, unless a rage for Cochin China fowls may be considered one. The Protection Society yielded up its last breath the other day at the South Sea-house, and there is hardly a soul to inquire after it. Perhaps we are nursing our spirits for some new enthusiasm that time may reveal; for a French invasion possibly, or diggings in the Hebrides, or a visit from Pius IX., or some astounding discovery that is to eclipse steam, gas, the railways, the electric telegraph, guano, and all the other wonders of the day."

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

Messrs. HARPER & BROTHERS have in press: Chamois Hunting, with illustrations; Martha Baliol's Diary; Kennedy's Second Voyage of the Prince Albert; the Bourbon Prince; Influence, or the Evil Genius; Lady Lee's Widowhood, from Blackwood; "Our Honeymoon," from Punch; Tayler's Memorials of the English Martyrs; Agatha's Husband, by the author of "Olive"; Leopold Ranke's Civil Wars and Monarchy in France; the Lover's Stratagem, by Miss Carlen; The Boyhood of Great Men, with illustrations; Harry's Ladder to Learning, with illustrations; Dickens's Child's History of England; A Poet's Day Dreams, by Anderson; Lowry's Table Atlas; Miss Bremer's Homes in the New World; Wood's Illustrated Natural History; the Little Drummer, by Nieritz; Wise Saws and Modern Instances; Nelly Armstrong; Sir William Hamilton's Works; the Inn by the Sea Side, by Miss Drury; Nina, a Tale for Twilight; Merivale's Romans Under the Empire; Lever's Dodd Family Abroad; Seeman's Voyage of the "Herald"; The First Lieutenant's Story; Captain Digby Grand; Christine Von Amberg; The Gossip's Wife, by Miss Pardoe.

On Saturday, March 19th, TICKNOR, REED & FIELDS, Boston, will publish Longfellow's

Hyperion, illustrated with nearly one hundred engravings on wood, executed in London, from designs made by Birket Foster, during a recent tour through Germany, Switzerland, Salzburg, and the Tyrol, undertaken for the express purpose of illustrating this work. Svo. Uniform with Longfellow's Poems, cloth: morocco. The publishers' preamble says: This, the first illustrated edition of Longfellow's celebrated romance furnishes also the first example of a lengthened journey being expressly undertaken to depict from Nature all the varied scenes amid which a writer of fiction has laid the incidents of his story: and the fact that a tour of between two and three thousand miles, out and home, had to be performed for this purpose, and that every local illustration contained in the volume was sketched on the spot, and is a perfectly faithful representation of the place described or mentioned, cannot fail to lend additional interest to the illustrations, independent of their great artistic merit.

In press: Marie Louise, by Miss Emilie Carlen. GARRETT & Co. are to be the publishers.

BOOK TRADE SALES.—Messrs. Bangs, Bro. & Co. have issued their first catalogue for their spring trade sale, which will commence on Monday next, the 21st inst. The catalogue is a book of itself, being an octavo volume of more than 400 pages—the largest catalogue of the kind, we believe, ever put forth in this country. Among the contributors to the sale are large publishing firms, who have always confided their sales to our friends Bangs, Bro. & Co., as Barnes & Co., Blanchard & Lea, Bunce Brother, Carters, Dodd, Gould & Lincoln, Harpers, Hart, Little, Brown & Co., Long & Brother, Lindsay & Blakiston, Putnam, Redfield, Saxton, Dunigan & Bro., Garrett & Co., Stanford & Swords, Ticknor, Reed and Fields, &c. Ten days and nights will be occupied in disposing of the goods. The order of the sale is on the back of the catalogue. A lively business is expected, as the contributions to the sale embrace the very best class of literature. Added to these are large invoices of stationery, stereotype plates, writing papers, &c., which will be sold in another room at the same time.

ALBANY, March, 1853.

In 1795, an English traveller, speaking of the trade of Albany, says: "It bids fair to rival that of New York in process of time." Time has not made such "process," but it has brought with it so many improvements, and opened such abundant and more advantageous avenues of wealth to our sister city, that we can show our wisdom best, by withholding nothing that can adorn that "monument of the western world." Besides being on speaking terms, we are within speaking distance of each other, and but a few hours' ride from the ocean and the lakes, and we scarcely think, as did our worthy burghers, who first signed their wills, ere they set out on so long and perilous a journey of several weeks. But let no one suppose that Albany is degenerated, for she is gradually shaking off some of her mistaken notions of delaying enterprise, and learning that if she will not be outdone by her neighbors, she *must* progress.

Viewed in its literary aspect, Albany has a fair proportion in numbers, and certainly very eminent literary institutions. These have been reared and sustained by men whose reputations in the scientific world have been secured not only by their own distinguished abilities, but by the generous and energetic manner in which they have successfully aided in advancing scientific and educational measures.

I will mention in this connexion the Albany Institute, organised in 1829 by the union of the Albany Lyceum of Natural History, and the Society for the Promotion of Useful Arts. The

character and value of its papers can be satisfactorily attested by reference to its "Transactions," published in two 8vo. volumes; the second volume very recently. The late Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer was its firm and liberal patron. Aside from its antiquarian collection and Museum of Natural History, the Institute possesses a library of over 11,000 titles, including 526 volumes of pamphlets. A catalogue, I understand, is being prepared for publication.

Another institution in this city which has become of some importance, and which is one of the brightest and certainly most enduring evidences of the munificence of its patron, is the State Library.

Founded by an act of the Legislature in 1818, by the aid of small annual appropriations, it crept gradually along. But its progress up to the year 1845 was hardly commensurate with its age; for at that date it numbered only 10,000 volumes. The Legislature then constituted the Regents of the University, *ex officio*, Trustees of the State Library, and by continuing their annual appropriations, the collection has since increased to 30,000 and upwards: not far inferior to the fine libraries of your city, and certainly second to none of them in its collection of works and writings on American History. It embraces a Law Library, which has been pronounced, by those who are competent to judge, the best in the country.

The State Library has profited largely by the system of international exchange, through Mr. Vattemare. The celebrated Topographical Map of France (170 sheets) which has been in the course of publication since 1833, and not yet completed; the Historical Gallery of Versailles, in 15 folio volumes; the Laws of France (*Bulletin des Lois*) from 1789 to 1850, are some of the valuable receipts from this exchange. Costly and invaluable donations have been made by the Kings and Governments of Prussia, Netherlands, Sicily, Bavaria, the Emperor of Austria, and the Library of St. Mark's at Venice, also from Pope Pius IX. The last catalogue was published in 1850. The current additions are annually reported to the Legislature. Some of those of the past year have been of more than ordinary importance and value, such as Churchill's Voyages, Collier's Ecclesiastical History, Silvestre's Universal Paleography, Playfair's British Family Antiquities,—a large purchase from the library of the late Dr. Jarvis, including the works of many of the Fathers of the Church; several additional volumes of the *Jesuit Relations*, those curious writings on early American history. There are twenty-three of these now in the library. Nine were presented by the National Library at Paris. The collection of manuscripts and literary curiosities has grown to be quite large, but not yet as extensive as those in the possession of your Historical Society. Under the latter head I notice a specimen of the earliest printing done in the colony of New York. Mr. William Bradford (for he was the printer) removed from Philadelphia to New York in June, 1693, and this "Proclamation from the King" was printed on the 26th of August, 1693. A MS. plan of the city of Albany, dated 1764. This was found among the papers of the Rev. Eleazer Wheelock, and a plat of ground is marked out for an "Indian School," from which it is inferred that he designed establishing that school at this place. The copy of the Clay Medal and Proceedings, recently presented by committee of your citizens to the State, has been conspicuously arranged in the miscellaneous department.

For the better accommodation and security of all this treasure, there has recently been erected a fire-proof building, calculated to hold at least 100,000 volumes. It is expected to be ready for occupancy in August.

As I have been speaking of libraries and books, let me introduce you to the book palaces of our PEASE & Co. and LITTLE & Co. The en-

largements which these men are constantly making, are the best proofs that can be produced of their princely business. In the beauty, adornment, and extent of structures, they are only controlled by what cannot be procured. The arrangements which Messrs. Pease & Co. have recently completed afford them one of the most extensive establishments in the State, and even now they have not reached their maturity, for their reputation is strengthening daily. The depth of their building is 185 feet, extending from State to Norton streets, with twenty-five feet on each street. They publish a number of valuable works, and besides being the Repository in this city for the numerous American Bible and Tract Societies, they have in connexion an extensive paper warehouse. Their stock of English publications is very large and well selected, many of them very costly; for instance, Silvestre's "Paleography," allowed to be the most beautiful book ever published for sale; original price, \$300. I think I have scarcely seen in any book store more elegance than is exhibited by their cases of assorted and extra bound books; and I know, too, that their prices are reasonable.

The bookselling and publishing house of Messrs. LITTLE & Co. is one of the oldest and most successful in the country. They occupy a store which is one of the three largest in the United States, the other two being those of Messrs. Appleton, New York, and H. W. Derby & Co., of Cincinnati. The arrangement and style of the shelves, counters, cases, &c., are attractive, symmetrical and convenient. Their collection of books is curiously complete in each department—a feature which frequently secures to them large and varied orders for public and private libraries. Their business is heavy, and carried on in a quiet way, numbering their customers and friends by thousands. They seem to be the especial favorites of the lawyers in all parts of the State. Law books are their chief publications; they have, however, just issued "The History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties," by Franklin B. Hough, M. D., Corresponding Member of the New York Historical Society. Among their law publications are Beck's "Medical Jurisprudence," Law's "Treatise on the United States' Courts," Conkling's "Admiralty," Van Santvoord's "Pleadings." The reports of the Court of Appeals, and of the New York Superior Court, are published by this house.

Mr. Brodhead's new book has been very favorably received in this city. It is just such a work as everybody would expect from one who has so carefully and accurately studied our colonial history. Mr. Brodhead's name is frequently mentioned here this winter in connection with the publication and supervision of the documents which he collected in England, France and Holland, under the authority of the State.

Last week, I paid a visit to the *atelier* of our talented fellow-townsman, Mr. E. D. PALMER, and found him busily engaged in modelling upon a beautiful figure in bas-relief. It is intended, as I learned, to form one of the sides of a monument, which the young men of Albany are about erecting to the memory of an estimable young citizen—the late Daniel Campbell, Esq. The figure is intended as an embodiment of Grief. The masterly treatment which this subject has received from the hands of Mr. Palmer is indeed very beautiful, and certainly original. A female figure, the right knee resting on the ground, the body slightly inclined forward, the head reclining on the left hand which is supported by the arm resting on the right knee; the face, which is slightly turned towards us, bears upon it an expression of deep, heart-felt sorrow, and calm, Christian resignation. The attitude and expression of the whole figure is in perfect keeping with the sentiment which it conveys. He has also in his room a fine bust of Mrs. E. D. Morgan, the wife of your distinguished Senator. This will be the only work, I believe, that he

will have at the coming Exhibition of the Academy of Design. I will forego a description of it, feeling confident that its refinement, beauty and execution will be fully appreciated.

A-propos of the Academy. I had the gratification of seeing a fine picture by William Hart, Esq., of this city, which he designs sending to the next Exhibition. The subject that he has selected is from one of his numerous sketches taken during his recent visit to Europe, from which it will be recollected he has but lately returned, after three years of successful study. It is a view of *Lake Windermere*, and is rendered under a morning effect. The sky, broad and simply treated; the hills, almost wholly in shadow; the lake occupying the middle of the picture. The other portion of the scene is very pastoral in its nature, diversified with sunny slopes, studded with groups of trees; the more immediate foreground is occupied by several fine groups of cattle, well drawn and painted. To the right of the foreground is a group of rustic figures; near them is a fine study of old logs, partly hidden by a profusion of carefully detailed weeds and underbrush. Behind the figures, in fine relief against the bright portion of the sky, rises a small tree; it gives force and value to the picture without injuring the height and grandeur of the hills. The perfect proportions of the objects, as they recede from the eye, I have rarely seen surpassed: in fact, this, together with the purity of color, is the distinguishing feature of the picture. He has one or two others, which he proposes sending; but of these I regret I have no room to speak.

I cannot close this article without mentioning a young man here, who is making rapid strides in the art. His name is G. H. Boughton. He is at present making arrangements to spend some months in England. A most judicious choice he has made, for his whole mind seems bent on the class of subjects which so abounds in the rural districts of that country, such as groups of trees, lane scenes, cottages, with rustic figures, &c.—a class of pictures we are greatly lacking in. Scenes of this nature are like our first loves; memory delights to fall back upon them, after it has become satiated with everything else.

H.

PHILADELPHIA, March 8th, 1853.

Editors of the Literary World:
GENTLEMEN:—Since my last we have moved on very quietly in the book way, sending forth perhaps fewer than the average number for the dull month of February.

A. HART has just published "The Obligation of the Sabbath: A discussion between Rev. J. Newton Brown and Wm. B. Taylor," a comprehensive work. "The Curse of Clifton: A Tale of Expiation and Redemption," by Mrs. Southworth, is in her usual spirited style; she errs in furnishing her mountain houses so elegantly, and has made a geological blunder in putting quartz peaks on the Alleghany. This, however, by no means spoils the book.

LEA and BLANCHARD have out "Fergusson's Operative Surgery," 4th edition, 1 vol. 8vo., 393 illustrations. "Hawker on Shooting, edited by Porter," 2d edition, 1 vol. 8vo., plates. "Strickland's Queens of Henry VIII," 1 vol. crown 8vo.

LIPPINCOTT, GRAMBO & Co. have added to their Cabinet Series the "History of New York, from its earliest settlement to the present time, by W. H. Carpenter and T. S. Arthur," 336 pp. "Elements of the Laws," by T. L. Smith, late Judge of the Supreme Court of Indiana. "Charity and the Clergy: a Review by a Protestant Clergyman." "New Themas condemned; or, Thirty opinions on New Themes and its Reviewers." "Poetical Works of Milton, with life by Charles Dexter Cleveland." "Schoolcraft's History and Condition of the Indian Tribes of North America," 4to, part 3d—this completes the work that is alike creditable to the Government and to the publisher, while it

will be a lasting monument to its author; Captain Eastman deserves the warmest praise for his exquisite illustrations. "Roland Trevor; or, the Pilot of Human Life," is an autobiography of a pioneer Kentuckian, who emigrated in early days from Eastern Virginia. It will take rank among the best American books, for it is strongly characteristic of the noble race which has extended itself from James River and the Potomac, over "the bloody ground" of Kentucky—beyond the Mississippi—and for hundreds of miles up the Missouri. The cavalier race, in its labor and in its energy as well as in its intelligence, is not a whit behind that of the Pilgrim—in enterprise it precedes it. The great merit of the work consists in its being the type of that simple-hearted, truthful, and manly race. It is the first Kentuckian exhibited to the world; heretofore one had to travel to read him. "The Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, containing Plans for protection of the Delta from Inundation, and Improvement of the Navigation by Means of Reservoirs," by Charles Ellet, Jr. A most able work and calculated to lead to the improvement of the Western Rivers. Volumes 8, 9, and 10 of the "Colonial Records of Pennsylvania" have appeared. They are for sale by the County Treasurer. Mr. Hazard, the able editor, will complete in a few days the first volume of the Archives. In about a year the public will have the full material of Pennsylvania History—the only thing wanting being a few papers which exist in the State Paper Office at London, and of which our Historical Society a few years ago, published a catalogue. Copies will one day be obtained. Byrne's "American Engineer's Assistant," published by C. A. Brown & Co., to which I referred in my last letter, has appeared. It is a fine quarto of 128 pages and illustrated by 214 well drawn engravings and plates. The author is noted for his scientific knowledge, and in this work has well sustained his reputation. It will be found most useful for young mechanics.

J. W. Moore has nearly ready, "The Apocalypse Explained."

E. S. Jones & Co. have out this week, Nos. 20 and 21 of "The Model Architect."

T. & J. W. Johnson add to their valuable stock of law books, "Smith's Law of Contracts, edited by W. Henry Rawle," 8vo., 480 pp. "English Common Law Reports, vol. 66, containing vol. 13 Queen's Bench Reports (Adolphus & Ellis's new series), reprinted in full with notes by Hon. Geo. Sharswood," 1000 English pages. "Crompton & Jervis's Exchequer Reports, reprinted in full, with notes by Messrs. Hare and Wallace," 2 vols. 8vo., 600 pp. "Smith's Master and Servant," forming the January, February, and March numbers of the Law Library for 1852. "Dunlop's Laws of Pennsylvania to 1852 inclusive, carefully edited and much improved by James Dunlop," 8vo., 1100 pp. "Wharton's Digest of Decisions of Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to 4th Harris inclusive," 2 vols. 8vo.

JAMES KAY, JR. & BROTHER publish "A Treatise on the Law of Limited Partnership in the United States; with a copious Index of Forms; the Statutes enacted by the different States, and Reports of Decisions on this branch of the Law in the American Courts," by Francis J. Troubat, Esq.; 8vo., 752 pp.

HERMAN HOOKER has reprinted "Restoration of Belief," and published "The Planter, or 13 years in the South, by a Northern Man."

WILLIS P. HAZARD has ready, "Hand Book for the Tourist and Traveller over the Philadelphia and Trenton Railroad," 40 engravings. "Tales of the Colonies; or, Adventures of a Settler in Australia," a reprint. "Night Watches; or, the Piece of the Cross," a collection of Poems. "Guide Book of Philadelphia." In preparation, the letter-press for the illustrations by Kaulbach of Reynard the Fox, "Translation of Goethe's Poem," 37 plates, 4to.—the plates will be imported.

ROBERT P. SMITH, No. 15 Minor street, has nearly ready a new edition of "Michaux's North American Sylva, with notes by J. Jay Smith." This fine work is in three volumes royal octavo, and is illustrated by 156 colored plates. The plates were engraved in Paris many years ago under the superintendence of Michaux, and are exquisitely beautiful. Michaux prepared this work in the infancy of our country, and yet no nation can boast its superior; but in so broad a field it was impossible to gather all. Thomas Nuttal, another Naturalist, of fame as great and as closely identified with American Science, completed the undertaking in three other volumes, illustrated by 121 colored plates. This, also, is published by Mr. Smith, whose success in the enterprise is as great as was the spirit praiseworthy, which led him to make a heavy outlay in a work for which there would be no sudden and capricious demand. Michaux is still living in Paris. A short time ago he executed in marble a bust of his friend Fulton, and presented it to the Gallery of the Louvre. A great feat for an octogenarian. The Sylva is quite as remarkable for the mass of practical matter and for applicability to the arts, as it is for its great botanic learning. The French Naturalists are unrivaled in this regard. The father of Michaux was himself a great botanist—he explored Persia and Western Asia. He came to America with his son, and penetrated the silent regions of the West—he went again to Asia, and died at Madagascar in 1802. The son, F. A. Michaux, piously incorporated the notes of his father with his own observations. What heroic characters these naturalists are and how lovable. The simple narrative of their pilgrimages has more than all the romance that Scott has thrown around the Crusaders, and we never once are shocked with vulgar crowds trampling on rights and desolating hearths. All their labors are of peace and love, and the fruits—the good of the human race. Nuttal was a wanderer many years. His Travels in Arakan is widely known and has long been a scarce book. He accompanied the Exploring Expedition under Wilkes; and with Gamble, a young Philadelphian of great promise in Natural History, but now dead, explored Oregon and California before the age of gold. Nuttal worked his gleanings of the forest into a continuation of Michaux, and just as he had completed it, fell heir to a considerable estate in England, with a condition that he should reside upon it six months in each year. May he long do so.

A more liberal and enlightened era dawns upon us—the minds of citizens are drawn to reflect on and devise means to elevate the character of our city—while we hesitate not in the bold enterprise of opening channels of communication with the West, we fearlessly attempt to substitute a well organized paid fire department in place of the present cumbersome volunteer system—we make a vigorous attempt to reform our expensive mode of collecting taxes, if we succeed it will save in annual commissions an amount equal to the interest on the county debt. We strive to rid High street of the market sheds which disfigure it. While we behold not without a degree of envy, the fame which your literary men have entailed on the Empire State, we are awaking from the delusion which has so long enthralled us with regard to cultivation of the mind in other directions than of mere business pursuits. It had long been thought that liberal minded men were unfitted for effective labor. Robert T. Conrad has been elected President of the Hempfield Railroad Company and the Easton and Water Gap Company have made Edward Armstrong their Secretary. Experience will show that their literary pursuits are very far from disqualifying them from a proper discharge of their duties.

At the annual meeting of the Historical Society, the Hon. Thomas Sergeant was re-elected President. Thomas Balch and Thomas Biddle,

Jr., were made Secretaries in place of George Northrop and E. Armstrong, who declined re-election. The other officers were continued. The Society received a valuable donation of Indian Antiquities from John Redfield of New Jersey; and also from the Committee a copy in bronze of the celebrated gold medal presented by the citizens of New York to Henry Clay. The reception of donations, the election of officers and of many new members consumed the whole time of the meeting. A cup of coffee or chocolate refreshed the members after their labors.

A notice of the doings of philosophers and naturalists I am compelled to defer till another letter.

Madame Alboni has appeared in several operas lately, but has not sustained her part so well as was expected. The peculiar powers of her voice had not the required scope—she was tied down, as it were—in some pieces, however, this was not so apparent.

Gottschalk, a native of New Orleans, who has been in Europe for some time and gained great applause, has had two concerts at the Musical Fund Hall. His success was all that his warmest friends could desire, and certainly as an artist, he has few, if any superiors. There is a correct execution, a musical conception, and judicious precision given to every note, that stamp him as no ordinary performer on the piano.

In looking over the fine collection of autographs and manuscripts in possession of Henry C. Baird (of which, by-the-by, I'll give you an account one of these days), I was struck with the primitive orthography of the following letter, written evidently in a day when the sword was mightier than the pen. Ebenezer Zane, the writer, was a famous character, and the first white man who settled at Wheeling. A capital account of him may be found in De Hass's History of the Indian Wars of Western Virginia.

WELING, 22d July, 1782.

Sir:—I apied to Colol. Marshal for powder to furnish this garrison of that you sent to Mingo Bottom; he tells me it is already Issued to the militia which Laies under a Nescesity of applying onst more to you for thirty or forty lb. Any powder you Now furnish for the yous of this garrison I will undertake to a count for and Re-place, if not Burnt att the Enemy.

Five militia is all the strentth we have att preasent Except the Inhabitance of the place.

A few Indians have Been viewing our Garrison yesterday and have Returned on thire Back tract, In consequence of which we may shortly Expect an attact. If any aid can Be afforded it will Be very Exseptabel; if itt cannot we mean to support the place or perrish in the at-tempt.

I am, with Due Respect,
Your Obedient humble ser't,
EBENEZER ZANE.
Brig. Gen. Wm. Irvine, Fort Pitt.

For a week or so we have been all excited about the beautiful monumental statuary by Steinhauser, executed by direction of Edward S. Burd's will, and commemorating his three children, who died in their youth. This master-piece has been placed in a beautiful marble chapel, built for it on the north side of St. Stephen's church. The children are grouped together, sleeping. The head of the elder sister is pillow'd on the cross; her right arm twines round the younger sister, whose head rests on the bosom of the elder; the left arm embraces her brother, whose head repose on her lap. The angel has just alighted, with still outspread wings, behind the group, to the left of the cross; he contemplates them—he hesitates, and almost fears to use the trump, partly raised—he stretches forth his right arm, and, gently touching, wakes them to life eternal. It is sublime and grand, and will rank as one of the highest achievements of art.

Painful as it is to bring a charge of fraud against any one, and, to my mind, nothing can be more so, it is a matter of duty in me to publicly denounce the writer who, a few weeks ago, in Horn's *Rail Road Journal*, said the connection between Philadelphia and Pittsburg was by railroad to Harrisburg, and thence by stage to Pittsburg. I will not insult common sense by admitting the possibility of ignorance in such a matter. The omnipotence with which the press is invested should render it so sacred that the least attempt to prostitute it should be visited with a fearful indignation. Its censor should be Truth. With great respect,

LOGAN.

Year Book of Facts for 1853.

GOULD & LINCOLN,
59 WASHINGTON STREET,
BOSTON,
HAVE JUST PUBLISHED

**The Annual of Scientific Discovery,
for 1853;**

Or, *Year Book of Facts in Science and Art, exhibiting the most important discoveries and improvements in Mechanics and Useful Arts, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Astronomy, Meteorology, Zoology, Botany, Mineralogy, Geology, Geography, Antiquities, &c., together with a list of recent Scientific Publications, a classified list of Patents; Obituaries of eminent Scientific Men; an Index of Important Papers in Scientific Journals, Reports, &c. Edited by David A. Wells. With portrait of Prof. A. D. Bache, of Washington, D. C.* 12mo. 416 pages. Price \$1.25.

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Or, Bourdillon in the Court of Louis XIV.; being an account of the Pulpit Eloquence of that distinguished Era. Translated from the French of L. Bungener. Paris: 17th edition. With an introduction, by the Rev. George Potts, D. D., New York. 12mo. cloth. \$1.25.

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SECOND EDITION ALL ENGAGED.

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The Captive in Patagonia;

Or, Life among the Giants. A Personal Narrative by Benjamin Franklin Bourne. With illustrations. 12mo., cloth. Price 85 cents.

This work, by Capt. Bourne—who was taken captive and retained three months by the Patagonians—gives an account of his capture and final escape; a description of this strange people, of which little or nothing has heretofore been known; their manners, customs, habits, pursuits, the country; its soil, productions, &c.

It will be found a work of uncommon interest as well as instruction to all classes of readers. Two large editions have been taken up at once, and the Trade out of the city have not yet begun to be supplied.

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 Pastor of the Sixth-street Baptist Church, New York.

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Messrs. DE WITT & DAVENPORT—Gents: I regard Beatrice as a not unfair representation of the manner in which a Popish, Jesuitical influence is actually put forth, to the subverting of many; an influence at this moment active and potent in our own land and Great Britain, and through which many youth, both male and female, of our best families, are beguiled by the working of the "mystery of iniquity," and "the decevability of unrighteousness." The work gives a seasonable and important warning, in a manner attractive and impressive; and I hope that it will be extensively read.

Respectfully and truly yours,

JOHN KNOX.

Agents, Booksellers, &c., supplied on the lowest terms. Orders should be sent in early, in consequence of the great demand for this work.

Third Edition now ready.

From Rev. Edwin F. Hatfield, D. D.

Messrs. DE WITT & DAVENPORT—Gents: I have read Beatrice with intense interest. It is a vivid and deeply impressive portraiture of Jesuitism revived, now seeking to regain its long-lost supremacy over the homes of Great Britain, and to establish itself in the free homes of this Protestant nation. The work will be to Popery, I trust, what "Uncle Tom's Cabin" has been to Slavery. May it have as great a circulation. Every American should read it.

Yours very truly,

EDWIN F. HATFIELD,

Pastor of Seventh Presbyterian Church, New York

From Rev. Thomas E. Bond, M.D., D.D., Editor of the New York Christian Advocate and Journal.

Messrs. DE WITT & DAVENPORT—Gentlemen: I have read Beatrice with great interest, and beg you to accept my thanks, as a Protestant, for the timely issue of a work so well calculated to expose the wiles of the most insidious and dangerous enemy to the Truth of God which the world has ever known.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient and humble servant,

THOMAS E. BOND, Sen.,
 Editor Christian Advocate and Journal.

From Rev. Andrew Stevenson, of the Second Reformed Presbyterian Congregation, New York.

Messrs. DE WITT & DAVENPORT—Gents: I have read Beatrice with rare interest and some profit. I would rejoice to see it in every Protestant family; and highly approve of the work.

Very respectfully yours,

ANDREW STEVENSON,
 Second Ref. Presb. Congregation, New York.

From Rev. Charles Seymour, D. D.

BROOKLYN, Jan. 17, 1853

GENTLEMEN: I have read Beatrice rather carefully, and, besides the other excellencies it contains, it presents a just and forcible illustration of Jesuitism—a system inimical to all the interests of virtue and godliness. The book also shows the danger that lurks in undervaluing our own Protestant usages, and the inevitable tendency of craving for a gaudy ritual. Such Romish errors as are mentioned in Beatrice, are displayed in their true nature and practical results.

I give the book a hearty approval. I hope its warning may sound loudly over our own and our forefathers' land—that it may open the eyes of the incredulous, and spread the influence of truth.

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES SEYMOUR,
 Rector of Calvary Church, Brooklyn.

To MESSRS. DE WITT & DAVENPORT.

From Rev. N. J. Marselus, of the Greenwich Dutch Reformed Church, New York.

Messrs. DE WITT & DAVENPORT—Gents: I have examined Beatrice, and cheerfully give a favorable expression to its merits. I have no doubt that it will be productive of much good. It is admirably calculated to open the eyes of the community to the deceptive wiles of Jesuitism, and expose its infernal origin. The work will exert a salutary influence in the direction for which it is intended. Its publication is most seasonable, and has my hearty concurrence.

Yours, sincerely,

N. J. MARSELUS.

MONTRÉAL, Feb. 5, 1853.

Messrs. DE WITT & DAVENPORT, New York.

Gentlemen: I wish you success in the publication of Beatrice. The vigorous pen of Miss Catharine Sinclair is worthily employed in exposing the arts and snare of Popery. Beatrice is a work well fitted to fortify young minds against the seductions of Romanism and Romanizing high-churchmen, and to promote a staunch and enlightened attachment to the Protestant faith.

D. FRASER, A. M.,

Minister of Free Church, Côte st. Montréal.

TRINITY CHURCH, MONTREAL, C. E., Feb 4, 1853.

DEAR SIRS: I have read Beatrice with deep and painful interest, and hail its appearance with gratitude to Almighty God, as an eloquent and powerful warning against that crafty and cruel power which is, unhappily, once more raising its monster head in Great Britain and on this free Continent. Alas! that Protestants should so slumber, when this bitter enemy to their best interests is not only at their doors, but in their very houses; not merely in their towns and cities, but in their families and schools; destroying the happiness of their domestic circles, and entrapping the ardent and the weak, poisoning every pure source of knowledge with their lying legends, and again bringing about that mental degradation and blind obedience which formerly enslaved Christendom.

This work of destruction is actively pursued in Montreal—some of our poorer brethren, and one or two in a better station of society, have been already beguiled—the Jesuit corps here being extended to the artisans and tradespeople, many are to be found among them; their plan is to sol^o-board and lodging in some family of the same av^{cation}—their payments are punctually made—books, &c., are gradually introduced—the women are first ensnared, and family peace and comfort are destroyed, until the man is content to follow her, and the children are sent to the Friars' schools.

With all this before their eyes, Protestants send their daughters to convents, for some imaginary advantage, and a sort of blind conventional politeness stops the mouths of many of our public men, who should be watching for Israel, as well in the Senate as in the Church.

ALEX. DIGBY CAMPBELL.

DE WITT & DAVENPORT,
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